

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

Public Comment Card

Please use this comment card to submit input regarding the Walker River Basin Acquisition Program and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include any sources of relevant data or information that you feel may enhance this document. Comments must be received by **November 26, 2007**.

Comments can be submitted in the following ways:

1. Turn in today at the Public Meeting; or
2. By US Mail addressed to Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701; or
3. By E-mail to chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov; or
4. By Fax to (775) 884-8376; or
5. If you have questions regarding the EIS or the process, please call Caryn Hunt DeCarlo at (775) 884-8352.

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: _____

Carl Fence

Affiliation (if any): _____

Street Address: _____

263 Pamela Dr.

City, State, Zip: _____

Walker Lake, NV 89415

Date: 11-19-07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

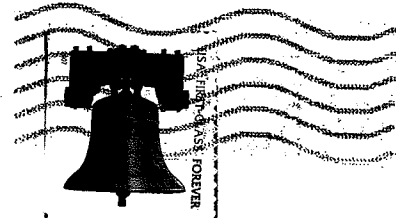
Return Address:



Marvin C Fence
263 Pamela Dr
Walker Lake NV 89415-9612

RENO NV 895

19 NOV 2007 PM 3 T



Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

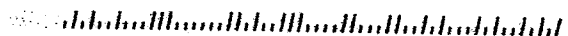
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To Whom It May Concern:

Foremost we want to preserve Walker Lake. Water is one of the most valuable resources of the State of Nevada. We do not want the Lake to turn in to another Mono Lake, CA or Owens Lake, CA.

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- ⑦. Waste Water Treatment Plants for Hawthorne and Walker Lake to help preserve Walker Lake water quality.**
- ⑧. Exclude the residents of Mineral County from being charged by the Walker River Paiute Tribe for using Walker Lake: Camping, Fishing, Boat Permits etc.**
- 9. Financial funding to improve the flow of water in the Walker River. Remove vegetation that consumes large quantities of water. Make necessary improvements to irrigation ditches to prevent water losses.**

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**BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office**

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Sherrel Fence

Affiliation (if any): ~~R~~

Street Address: 263 Pamela Dr

City, State, Zip: Walker Lake, NV 89415 Date: 11-19-07


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Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

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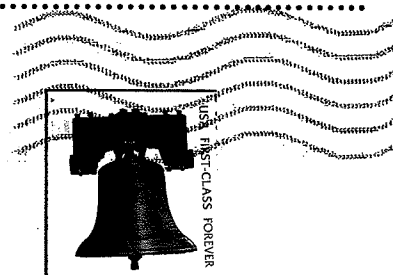
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Return Address:

 **Sherrel Fence**
263 Pamela Dr.
Walker Lake, NV 89415-9612

RENO NV 895

19 NOV 2007 PM 3 L



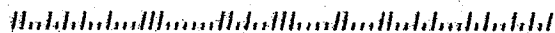
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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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89701+4066



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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Peter A. Fenili

Affiliation (if any): _____

Street Address: P.O. Box 3

City, State, Zip: Smith, NV 89430 Date: 12-4-07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

Personal Experience 1. life time farmer & water user
of 42 years. 2. 24 years of service WRID Director.
Congressional Law [P.L. 109-103 Sec. 208] must
include the state of California. I feel the
following reasons should be considered in
the EIS. over

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

1. Total water shed is in California.
 2. Walker rivers flows are regulated by Federal Law C-125 because of the interstate ownership of Water Rights.
 3. Total Reservoir Storage in California
 4. Potential water supply for Walker Lake
- Suggestions of ways to deliver water to Walker Lake
1. W.R.I.D Leasing Program
 2. Conservation: lining of Canals, Pipelines, Modern Measuring devices
 3. Low Level Reservoir in Smith & Mason Valleys, to regulate Peaks of River
 4. Measuring devices Re-installed in Bridgeport and Antelope Valleys.
 5. Remove Weber Reservoir from River System.

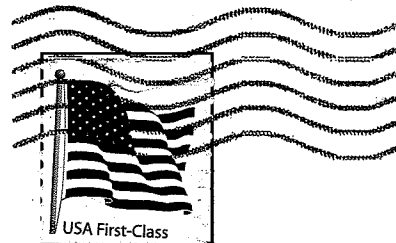
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Return Address:

Peter A. Fenili
P.O. Box 3
Smith, NV. 89430

RENO, NV 895

05 DEC 2007 PM 1 T



Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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Lahontan Basin Area Office

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: BILL FRADE
Affiliation (if any): FRADE RANCH
Street Address: 111 MACKENSIE LN
City, State, Zip: YEARMINGTON NEV 89447 Date: Nov 12 07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

ARID LANDS CREATE DUST + NOXIOUS WEED JUST LIKE ROSASCHI RANCH + OWEN VALLEY, AGRI RELATED BUSINESS WOULD BE SEVERELY IMPACTED, THE COMMUNITIES ECONOMY WOULD BE AFFECTED, GROUND WATER SUPPLIES WOULD BE AFFECTED, THE VALLEY'S ECO WILDLIFE + ENVIRONMENT WOULD BE IMPACTED THERE'S MORE WILDLIFE + FISHING ABOVE WALKER LAKE THEN AT WALKER LAKE

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

Loss of water in the Delivery system will effect the
REMAINING FARMERS,

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Return Address:

BILL FRADE
111 MACKENSIE LN
YERINGTON NEV 89447

PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE

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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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DECEMBER 10,

Comments can be submitted in the following ways:

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Fred Gulstone

Affiliation (if any): _____

Street Address: P.O. Box 12

City, State, Zip: Smith NV 89430 Date: Dec 10, 2007

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

Water is the ingredient to our Rambling Salmon
and future. Summer of 2007 is proof.

Walker Lake does not support the need
for the water because it is a dead lake. Salt
Put your dollars in to removing the salt and

make it a viable lake again - Our community
will suffer our wildlife will suffer and if
our way of life would not be able to recover.

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

From: Steven Fulstone <svranch@hotmail.com>
To: <chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov>
Date: 12/6/2007 3:16:05 PM
Subject: EIS Walker Basin

Dear Ms. Hunnt Decarlo,

Here are my comments for the EIS regarding Walker Basin .

1) Scoping must be comprehensive and must include connected, cumulative and similiar actions. There must be a better defined statement of purpose and need of the proposed action.

2) Many alternative methods of increasing the water to walker lake must be studied besides water aquisition. Included here are some viable options : Long term lease program from all of upstream water users, cloud seeding ,desalination at the lake, channel restoration, conservation including ditches and field crops , geothermal water.

3)All of section 208 should be included not just the portion that was refered to in the scoping meetings. This EIS could impact future legislation therefore the study should include the effects of further funding for more water to get to walker lake.

4) climate change should be included to indicate what will happen in the future

5) Finally all of the socioeconomic impacts to businesses and homes including towns and counties in the watershed.

Sincerely

Steven A Fulstone
31 Rivers Rd
Smith , Nevada
89430

cell 775-721-3271

You keep typing, we keep giving. Download Messenger and join the i'm Initiative now.
<http://im.live.com/messenger/im/home/?source=TAGLM>

Suellen Fulstone
P.O. Box 241
Coleville, CA 96107

December 7, 2007

VIA U.S. MAIL

Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
Bureau of Reclamation
705 N. Plaza Street
Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Ms. Hunt DeCarlo:

As an owner of ranch property in Antelope Valley, Mono County, California with water rights dependent upon the West Fork of the Walker River, I am setting forth my comments concerning the required scope of the proposed Environmental Impact Statement as referenced in 72 Federal Register 54456-54457, dated 25 September 2007.

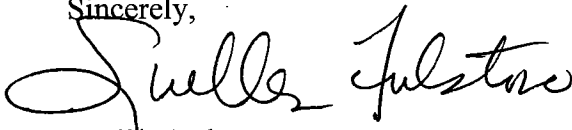
- Clarify and definitively state the purpose and need of the proposed action. To date there have been confusing and numerous representations of what the purpose and need are.
- Objectively evaluate all reasonable alternatives. Acquisitions in Nevada are not the only method of reaching the stated goal. A long term lease program should be considered. Surface water from Mount Grant and underground sources in basins near Walker Lake should be included in the evaluation.
- Acquisitions should first evaluate and target water rights appurtenant to land with the geographic location of providing the least impact to the remaining users and the system as a whole. Further, lands that are or will be changed in use from agriculture to residential should be a priority.
- Evaluation of the socioeconomic impacts to businesses, employment and social impact to local communities. Fiscal impacts to state and local governments including the cities, counties and the Irrigation District.

Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
December 7, 2007
Page 2

- Evaluation of the impacts to recreation, scenery, aesthetics and quality of life issues. Wildlife and wildlife habitat impacts should be considered basin wide.
- Evaluation of the pending litigation and the interaction of an active acquisition program while that litigation is unresolved.
- Additional methods of enhancing flows to the lake through cloud seeding and a managed plan for the benefit of the lake such as desalination should be considered too.
- Current climatic change data must be considered in any evaluation. Current trends indicate we are in a period of change and reliance on historic information exclusively would be unwise.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments. I reserve the right to provide further comments as the circumstances dictate.

Sincerely,



Suellen Fulstone

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Lahontan Basin Area Office

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Gloria Garcia

Affiliation (if any): _____

Street Address: 131 Golden Willow Pl

City, State, Zip: Walker Lake 89415 Date: 11-19-07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

I think more ways should
be used to put water back into
the lake. The Paiute's have already
made it impossible to get water
from the ~~the~~ ~~persons~~ Weber. We should
make them share their water, so our

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

Children and their children have
somewhere to swim, fish, camp, etc.

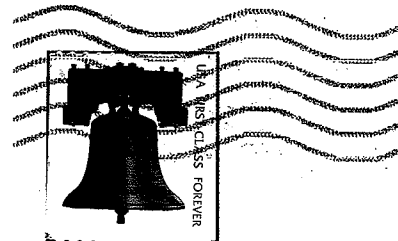
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Return Address:

Yolanda Garcia
131 Golden Willow Rd
Walker Lake NV
89415

RENO NV 895

28 NOV 2007 PM 1 T



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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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NOV 29 2007

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Lahontan Basin Area Office

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11 Dee Court
Smith, NV 89430
December 10, 2007

Caryn DeCarlo
Lahontan Basin Area Office
US Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation
705 Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

Subject: EIS Scoping

To Bureau of Reclamation:

I write regarding items that must be covered in the EIS for the proposed taking of water from Smith and Mason Valleys and sending the water to Walker Lake.

Can the project be successful?

A fundamental environmental question is whether the proposed program can possibly be successful in view of historical trends that continue today and may well accelerate in view of global warming. Stated alternatively, there may not be enough water to reverse the historical trends. If that is the case, implementing the program would have little or no positive value and major adverse consequences.

The environmentally questionable success must be balanced against the environmental damage that will certainly be done to Smith and Mason Valleys in the event that the program is implemented.

Walker Lake, like other western Great Basin lakes, has had a highly variable past. It is a shallow lake whose level has naturally fluctuated greatly. For example, in the mid Holocene period between about 14,000 and 4,700 years ago, the Walker Lake Basin that now holds Walker Lake was dry. That is, for nearly 2/3 the last 15,000 years, there was no Walker Lake, just a dry basin. Since Walker Lake has existed in the past 4,700 years, there have been very wide swings in lake depth. The level of Walker Lake is currently quite high based on its mid-late Holocene history, and may be expected to naturally retreat if it follows its historical trends of the late-Holocene period. These changes are possibly accounted for by the flow direction of the Walker River, climatic changes, and human effects (in the past 4000 years or so).

Thus, "restoring" Walker Lake to historic Holocene levels means that it would have

less water, not more water.

Additional climatic factors must be considered. With the now-well-documented global warming, the water flow toward Walker Lake from the Sierra Nevada range may be expected to decline and to fluctuate more widely than in the recent past. Precipitation may be expected to decline. Water tables in the western Great Basin may be expected to decline in the vicinity of the Walker Lake Basin, in Smith Valley, in Mason Valley, and in the western Great Basin generally. The surface evaporation rate from Walker Lake will increase with increasing ambient temperature. These effects all suggest that the water levels of the Walker Lake Basin will naturally decline back toward their historic low and nonexistent levels of the mid- and late-Holocene periods.

In short, attempts to "restore" Walker Lake to an artificially high level may be as successful as attempts to restore the entirety of Lake Lahontan would be today. The western Great Basin valley-bottom lakes, specifically those of the Lahontan Basin, have naturally shrunk to about 1/14 of their maximum surface areas from earlier Holocene times. The historical trend of the western Great Basin lakes on the whole is toward smaller size and lower water levels. There is certainly insufficient water to "restore" the entirety of Lake Lahontan, and there is likely insufficient water available to "restore" Walker Lake. Only the height of human arrogance would conclude that the destruction of Smith Valley and Mason Valley by moving their water to the Walker Lake Basin could reverse natural history. Politicians in Washington cannot reverse historic natural trends with the stroke of a pen. The EIS must provide them the information to determine whether their program is even feasible, which they should have had before enacting the bill.

The EIS therefore must include a full, detailed historical study of Walker Lake Basin and Lahontan Basin water trends, and a projection of the trends into the future for all of the different scenarios of human resource use, flow of the Walker River, and climatic variations including the differing possible scenarios for global warming. There is little data to support the study, so that extensive historical experimental investigations must necessarily be undertaken. This study must extend for the period of at least 25,000 years into the past and 25,000 years into the future in order to capture the entirety of the historical scope of fluctuations of water levels in the Walker Lake Basin and the Lahontan Basin.

The Walker Lake Basin, part of the Lahontan Basin more generally, is one of the most complex ecosystems in the world, and has been influenced by past historic trends and may be expected to be affected by future trends as well. The proposed taking of water from Smith and Mason Valleys will certainly have adverse effects on these areas. Whether it can be expected to have sufficient positive effects on the Walker Lake Basin to counter these adverse effects is a key environmental balancing that must be performed.

The EIS must therefore also include a complete study of the historical trends, and

the effect of implementing the present legislation, in probabilistic terms. One would expect that, unless the analysis establishes beyond any doubt for at least a 90% probability of "success", whatever that term means in light of the historically low water levels of the Walker Lake Basin, the project should not be undertaken.

What is a proper measure of "success" for the Walker Lake Basin?

A question related to the question of the prior section, but distinctly different, is what would it mean to be successful in relation to the Walker Lake Basin? If "success" cannot be achieved with environmentally acceptable side effects, the program is not worth pursuing. An answer to this question is therefore fundamental to the environmental analysis and the relative environmental analysis of positive and negative effects. The relevance is that different levels of water diversion to Walker Lake can be proposed, and criteria must be established to govern the magnitude of that diversion. The effect on Walker Lake, as well as for Smith Valley and Mason Valley, for various scenarios must be considered.

Measuring "success" must consider that "success" may actually mean a reduction in Walker Lake to historic levels.

Measuring "success" for the Walker Lake Basin must take into account the adverse effects of changing water chemistry on the life of the Walker Lake Basin.

Measuring "success" for the Walker Lake Basin must also take into account the positive effects of lowered water level on the Walker Lake Basin.

What will be the effect on the Walker River?

The Walker River has had a truly fickle character over its history. Its direction and channel have changed in the past. Sometimes it has flowed into the Carson drainage through Adrian Valley, and sometimes into the Walker Lake Basin.

The EIS must take into account the historical flow of the Walker River and the effects on its flow under the various factors discussed in the preceding sections, especially global warming.

What will be the effects on the natural development of Smith Valley and Mason Valley?

The proposed approach would take water from these valleys. Although the program speaks of "willing sellers", the effect of taking water from these areas extends far beyond the ownership interests of the "willing sellers". Much of the water is used today in a

manner that runoff recharges the water table. The taking of the water will reduce recharge of the water tables of these two valleys, and produce a reduction in the water levels. The residents of these two valleys are almost entirely dependent upon water wells for their water. Without proper recharge, their sources of water will dry up and/or become chemically modified in unacceptable ways.

Similarly, the flora and fauna of these regions depend upon the existing water levels. They will be extensively damaged by a reduction of the water level both in Smith and Mason Valleys, and in other parts of the Walker River drainage and recharge area.

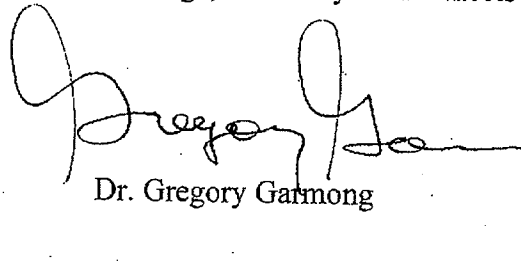
Fires may be expected to be worse with less surface and ground water available, and the resources to fight these fires will be adversely affected.

The economies of these areas are largely agricultural, and a reduction in the water table will damage the economies. Halting agricultural production and allowing areas to become dust will result in major dust storms, in light of the strong westerly winds that prevail in the region for most of the year.

Consequently, the EIS must include a full study of the effects of taking water from these areas on the water levels for the remaining residents, the animals, and the plants, in light of past historical trends and future trends including global warming.

The EIS must include a full study of the effect of taking water from Smith Valley on the water table on the east side of Smith Valley, and most particularly at 11 Dee Court, Smith.

The EIS must also provide for scenarios of importing sufficient water from elsewhere to restore the ground water levels of Smith and Mason Valleys to their current values to minimize these adverse effects of reduced recharge, and analyze the effects of importing that water from other places.



Dr. Gregory Garmong

via fax: 775-884-8376 (4 pages total)

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BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Lahontan Basin Area Office
705 North Plaza Street, Suite 320
Carson City, Nevada 89701

DATE: 11 / 7 / 07 TIME: 10:30 TOTAL PAGES: 2

TO: Gary Garmes

FAX NO:

PHONE NO: 775-465-2661

FROM: Caryn Hunt DeCarlo

FAX NO:

PHONE NO:

MESSAGE:

Hi Gary. Attached is an email
response to your fax
questions.

Caryn

TRANSMISSION NOTICE: This fax is intended only for the addressee above. It may contain information that is privileged or otherwise protected from disclosure. Any use of this fax or its contents by persons other than the addressee is strictly prohibited. If you received this fax in error, please notify the sender immediately and mail the original back to the sender at the address above.

From: Caryn HuntDeCarlo
To: gLtdsv@yahoo.com
Date: 11/7/2007 10:22:07 AM
Subject: Fax

Gary,

I received your fax...I will fax this response as well email in case there is a problem. I'm sorry the email isn't working, it looks like you have the correct email address, but it does show my name with one t and huntt has two ts.

chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov

Comments can be submitted in any format, there is no official form. We just provide forms at the public meetings to provide the contact info.

Please let me know if you have any other questions.

Caryn



Print - Close Window

Date: Wed, 7 Nov 2007 08:20:07 -0800 (PST)
From: "Gary Garms" <gltdsv@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: PUBLIC COMMENT WRBASIN 11-7-07
To: "CARYN HUNT DeCARLO" <CHUNTTDECARLO@MP.USBR.GOV>

Gary Garms <gltdsv@yahoo.com> wrote:

CARYN, IS THERE A REQUIREMENT THAT ONLY OFFICIAL FORMS SUPPLIED BY BOR
WILL BE ACCEPTED AND COUNTED AS PART OF PUBLIC COMMENTS? ALSO IS THERE
A WAY TO DOWNLOAD THESE FORMS IF NECESSARY? THANK YOU
GARY GARMS

Do You Yahoo!?

Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around
<http://mail.yahoo.com>

Do You Yahoo!?

Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around
<http://mail.yahoo.com>

Caryn, My email to you
are "undeliverable" - so please
email and Fax Back to me the
answers to my questions above -
Fax 775 465 2661
email gltdsv@yahoo.com

Public Comment Card

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

Please use this comment card to submit input regarding the Walker River Basin Acquisition Program and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include any sources of relevant data or information that you feel may enhance this document. Comments must be received by December 10, 2007.

TO: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701

FROM: TONI GARMS, PO BOX 170, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

WALKER LAKE

SMITH&MASON VALLEY

"QUID PRO QUO"

Definition:

SOMETHING

FOR

SOMETHING

NEEDS WATER
TREATED FAIRLY
BENEFITS AMERICA
SUSTAIN WALKER LAKE
GOV'T LEADERS SUPPORT
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NEVADA
PARITY
UNITY
UNDERSTANDING

WIN

THANK YOU!

SUPPLIES SOME WATER
TREATED FAIRLY
BENEFITS AMERICA
SUSTAIN ECONOMY
GOV'T LEADERS SUPPORT
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NEVADA
PARITY
UNITY
UNDERSTANDING

WIN

THANK YOU!

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FROM: TONI GARMS, PO BOX 170, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

BEFORE ANY IRRIGATION WATERS ARE REMOVED FROM THE CURRENT IRRIGATION DELIVERY SYSTEMS WITHIN SMITH VALLEY OR MASON VALLEY AND SENT OFF TO SUSTAIN WALKER LAKE THE FOLLOWING WILL NEED TO BE RESOLVED.

ELIMINATION OF ANY INEFFICIENCIES IN THE DELIVERY SYSTEMS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF LESS WATER FLOWS OF THE REMAINING IRRIGATION WATER RIGHTS TO FARM LANDS WITHIN SMITH VALLEY AND MASON VALLEY.

WITH THE FUNDING AND COMPLETION OF THE NECESSARY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS THAT WILL IMPROVE THE WATER DELIVERY EFFICIENCY TO 100% BY THESE SYSTEMS PRIOR TO ANY WATER DELIVERIES BEING MADE TO WALKER LAKE.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

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FROM: TONI GARMS, PO BOX 170, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

ANY LOSS OR THE USE OF WATER RIGHTS WITHIN SMITH VALLEY FOR THE BENEFIT OF SUSTAINING WALKER LAKE WILL LIMIT GROWTH IN POPULATION THAT IN TURN DIRECTLY AFFECTS THE **COMMERCIAL ZONED** LANDS IN SMITH VALLEY.

EXISTING BUSINESSES WILL STRUGGLE TO SURVIVE BUT NEW BUSINESSES WILL NOT BE INCLINED TO COME INTO OUR AREA.

LANDOWNERS OF THESE COMMERCIAL LANDS COULD REALIZE A REDUCED VALUATION OF UP TO 90% FROM TODAY'S VALUES!

THIS WILL NOT HELP THE TAX BASE OF LYON COUNTY OR THE STATE OF NEVADA THAT DEPENDS ON GROWTH THAT FEEDS IN ADDITIONAL TAX REVENUES.

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FROM: TONI GARMS, PO BOX 170, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

WATER RIGHTS LOST FROM WITHIN SMITH VALLEY FOR THE BENEFIT OF SUSTAINING WALKER LAKE WILL END UP LIMITING GROWTH IN POPULATION.

A HOMEOWNERS TAXABLE VALUATION COULD BE REDUCED BY UP TO 90%!

THIS WILL NOT HELP THE TAX BASE OF LYON COUNTY OR THE STATE OF NEVADA WHO DEPEND UPON THIS REVENUE.

WITHOUT GROWTH EMPLOYMENT OF TEACHERS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT SERVICES WILL BE REDUCED OR ELIMINATED.

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Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

WATER RIGHTS LOST FROM WITHIN SMITH VALLEY FOR THE BENEFIT OF SUSTAINING WALKER LAKE WILL LIMIT ITS GROWTH IN POPULATION.

THE VALUATION ON AGRICULTURAL & OPEN SPACE LANDS COULD GET REDUCED UP TO 90%!

THIS WILL LOWER THE TAX BASE OF LYON COUNTY AND THE STATE OF NEVADA.

WITHOUT A STRONG ECONOMY THE EMPLOYMENT OF TEACHERS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT SERVICES WILL BE REDUCED OR ELIMINATED.

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FROM: TONI GARMS, PO BOX 170, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

“LAND” WHO’S WATER RIGHTS ARE EXPORTED AWAY FROM SMITH VALLEY, ITS USE AND ARE FOR THE END BENEFIT OF SUSTAINING WALKER LAKE WILL NEED TO BE RECLAIMED WITH RE-ESTABLISHING NATIVE VEGETATION.

A RECLAMATION PROJECT WITH FUNDING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A STABILIZING PROCESS OF THESE LANDS OVER A LONG TERM TIMEFRAME ARE AND WILL BE A NECESSITY FOR THE BENEFIT OF RESIDENTS AND ALL WILDLIFE IN SMITH VALLEY.

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FROM: TONI GARMS, PO BOX 170, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

“LAND” WHO’S WATER RIGHTS ARE SOLD OR LEASED BUT NONE THE LESS ARE EXPORTED AWAY FROM SMITH VALLEY AND ITS USE AND ARE FOR THE BENEFIT OF SUSTAINING WALKER LAKE NEED TO BE RECLAIMED WITH RE-ESTABLISHING NATIVE VEGETATION.

**A RECLAMATION PROJECT SIMILAR TO THE USDA’S
“CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM”(CRP) OF WHICH
CURRENTLY WORKS WELL IN MANY AREAS OF THE UNITED STATES
CAN BE A MODEL.**

**THE CRP PROGRAM BENEFITS ALL SET ASIDE LANDS BY HELPING
SHELTER, FEED & WATER WILDLIFE WHILE STABILIZING THE SOIL.**

**ADDITIONALLY RECREATION IS THEN ALLOWED ON THESE LANDS
FOR THE PUBLIC’S USE.**

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Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701

FROM: TONI GARMS, PO Box 170, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

THE SOCIOECONOMIC STABILITY OR IMPROVEMENT OF IT, FOR BOTH
SMITH VALLEY AND MASON VALLEY IS OF PARAMOUNT CONCERN.

NOT ONE ATTEMPT TO CHANGE THE DESTINATION OF ANY WATERS
SHOULD BE MADE UNTIL ALL ISSUES ARE ADDRESSED AND THEN
ALL RESOLUTIONS ARE IN ACTIVE PRACTICE.

SUCCESS WILL ONLY BE ACHIEVED WITH ALL WORKING TOGETHER
WITH A FAIR AND EQUITABLE MINDSET IN THEIR APPROACH.

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TO: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701

FROM: Toni Garms, PO Box 170, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

The areas that will be economically effected by this acquisition will be as far reaching as the state of California with the Dairy Industry and feed stores having to replace the purchase of hays from area's further away from their businesses. The increase of fuel and hauling costs along with truck traffic on Nevada highways will not add to the integrity of its road systems or maintenance.

Economically the businesses in Smith and Mason Valley's will suffer a financial impact from the loss of hay production which will lead to losses in farm supply stores, fertilizer markets, gas, restaurants, garbage, grocery stores, etc. Employment numbers will be affected due to this loss in production numbers by landowners, which in turn will affect all employment numbers down the line of businesses.

Sierra Pacific Power Company will lose the pumping costs for sprinkler systems that will no longer have enough water for the production of crops leaving behind bare land. The water acquisition could financially encourage companies to go green with geothermal/ wind power plants being built in these areas thus a job market to help the economy would benefit the Smith/Mason Areas financially as well as help Nevada with enhanced clean power sources.

Lyon County government will have losses through sales tax revenues, utility fees and the devaluation of these water-righted lands. Lyon County will need financial help just to meet the demands for services in these areas along with ways to enhance development of new businesses and ways to entice jobs for the younger generations to remain in the local area.

The people of Lyon County need to know how this acquisition of water will be a benefit to its economic base and what the government will be adding to the economy of Lyon County to make it a viable area with economic benefits to the water right holders as well as the businesses that will be effected by the loss of water. The benefits

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FROM: Toni Garms, P. O. Box 170 Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

The Acquisition of water from the Smith and Mason areas in Lyon county will affect the staffing of the local firer Departments which in Smith Valley are strictly voluntary. The land owners who can now afford to offer their time as volunteers will disappear when they have to find jobs outside of the area to keep their land holdings in a viable position.

Volunteer fireman will have to be replaced with funding for paid fireman. A majority of Smith Valley's Fireman are local farmers of the area and with a loss of water to Walker Lake they will no longer have the necessary income or availability to be a volunteer fireman. Leaving the need for the standards to be brought up too the necessary current federal funding level for paid fireman along with current equipment, training and facilities to keep the valley safe from local disastrous. These job opportunities should be given to the local landowners along with the training that is now necessary to keep the high standards and follow government regulations. The local services

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

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FROM: Toni Garms, P. O. Box 170, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

President John F. Kennedy: "Our farmers deserve praise, not condemnation; and their efficiency should be cause for gratitude, not something which they are penalized."

President Thomas Jefferson: "Cultivators are the most valuable citizens...they are tied to their country."

President Dwight D. Eisenhower: "In no other country do so few people produce so much food, to feed so many, at such reasonable prices."

President George Washington: "It will not be doubted that with reference either to individual or national welfare, agriculture is of primary importance."

President George W. Bush: "A nation that can feed its people is a nation more secure."

It is very obvious that these Presidents of the United States have recognized the importance of farming. Any acquisition or leasing of water from farmlands should be treated with an intensity that is fairly equitable.

These landowners are the people that for decades have made the greatest sacrifice during economic downturns and war times. It is time for them and their communities to be compensated at a more than equitable rate with out regulations or stipulations on any monies received for their water rights. It is time to fund their communities' future to a standard equal to the cost of trying to resolve Walker Lakes demise with its unknown results.

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

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FROM: Toni Garms P. O. Box 170, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

The drought this year (2007) caused several types of animal species to move from the mountains to the valleys for their food and water supplies. If water is moved further down stream it will affect the habitat of both humans and animals. We had an enormous influx of rabbits and deer, which ate a great deal of acres and left all farmers with less production.

This drought will have an impact on irrigation and domestic wells if it continues. The costs of drilling new wells have increased along with everything else for both farmers and residents. What happens when water quality becomes an issue because of this drought? Who pays and develops the necessary water system when the county is already in a financial crisis as is the state of Nevada? Should we be looking at water meters for domestic wells soon? By not having a water system in place it will affect the parks, cemeteries, schools, churches, business.

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FROM: Toni Garms, P. O. Box 170 Lane, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

A development of a water market that provides benefits for both local and state through a partnership that is aimed to enhance the management of water for both agricultural-urban will help encourage the health and welfare of Nevadans and look to the future of sustaining the human species.

The water contractors (farmers) and the state must work together to create a pool of water supplies that water districts can call upon as insurance against the possibility of drought for urban areas with equitable payments to the local water contractors (farmers). The state should also look at projects for conservation of waters in these outline areas with compensation to the farmers and companies that are willing to look to the future water needs of Nevada.

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LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA**

Please use this comment card to submit input regarding the Walker River Basin Acquisition Program and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include any sources of relevant data or information that you feel may enhance this document. Comments must be received by December 10, 2007.

TO: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701

FROM: Toni Garms P. O. Box 170, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

The drought this year (2007) caused several types of animal species to move from the mountains to the valleys for their food and water supplies. If water is moved further down stream it will affect the habitat of both humans and animals. We had an enormous influx of rabbits and deer, which ate a great deal of acres and left all farmers with less production.

This drought will have an impact on irrigation and domestic wells if it continues. The costs of drilling new wells have increased along with everything else for both farmers and residents. What happens when water quality becomes an issue because of this drought? Who pays and develops the necessary water system when the county is already in a financial crisis as is the state of Nevada? Should we be looking at water meters for domestic wells soon? By not having a water system in place it will affect the parks, cemeteries, schools, churches, business.

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COMMENT:

A development of a water market that provides benefits for both local and state through a partnership that is aimed to enhance the management of water for both agricultural-urban will help encourage the health and welfare of Nevadans and look to the future of sustaining the human species.

The water contractors (farmers) and the state must work together to create a pool of water supplies that water districts can call upon as insurance against the possibility of drought for urban areas with equitable payments to the local water contractors (farmers). The state should also look at projects for conservation of waters in these outline areas with compensation to the farmers and companies that are willing to look to the future water needs of Nevada.

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WALKER LAKE

SMITH&MASON VALLEY

"QUID PRO QUO"

Definition:

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FOR

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TREATED FAIRLY
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WITH THE FUNDING AND COMPLETION OF THE NECESSARY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS THAT WILL IMPROVE THE WATER DELIVERY EFFICIENCY TO 100% BY THESE SYSTEMS PRIOR TO ANY WATER DELIVERIES BEING MADE TO WALKER LAKE.

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COMMENT:

I attended the community economic development meeting in Yerington, NV on December 5, 2007 at 7 PM. This was put on by the Nevada Small Business Development Center, MR.. DICK BARTHOLET, Director of Research Development at the University of Nevada Reno, his phone number is 775-784-6878.

This gathered information ultimately is to become part of the resolution to the Walker River Basin Project is what attendees were told.

Mr. Bartholet stated that this meeting would gather input from the community as to what they foresee the economic and fiscal impacts will be due to the Walker River Basin.

What was gathered during this meeting was a series of repeated "words" from the attendees to five specific questions presented to the audience. Towards the end of this meeting attendees were told that from these words Mr. Bartholet and staff will come up with an end valuation as to what the actual effect (**in dollars**) both economically and fiscally the impacts would be to both Smith Valley, Mason Valley and possibly the ripple effect well beyond these directly effected areas.

The audience was mainly told that beyond direct compensation to the purchase of water rights that they would not be determining any direct compensation figures to IE 3rd & 4th generations locals who sacrificed through even THE GREAT DEPRESSION OF THE 1930s and still own commercial lands within these areas that even though their land will **DEVALUE FROM \$150,000 AN ACRE TO \$20,000 AN ACRE** that they would not receive any direct payments for their loss in value from the Walker River Basin Process. If this is fact, what an unjustifiable approach to what we are told will be a fair resolve to NEVADANS.

This is but one example only for my comment but there needs to BE 100% COMPENSATION to all affected financially, for both current value devaluation and also calculated in what the 20 year future value models show as to a loss figure and it to be paid to those affected.

END.

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BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

Public Comment Card

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

Please use this comment card to submit input regarding the Walker River Basin Acquisition Program and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include any sources of relevant data or information that you feel may enhance this document. Comments must be received by December 10, 2007.

TO: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701

FROM: Scott Gill, 32 S. California St. Yerington, Nevada 89447

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

No limitations on any of the payments, grants, funding to the property owners or affected parties on any appropriated funding that is intended to be of benefit to Smith Valley and Mason Valley for their participants in saving Walker Lake Ecosystem.

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BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

Public Comment Card

**US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA**

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Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701

FROM: Scott Gill, 32 S. California ST., Yerington, Nevada 89447

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

With the infusion of monies (funding) it will then off set the effects that the loss of the water Acquisition will have on Smith Valley and Mason Valley.
Impacts to recreation, economic, cultural, scenic, aesthetic, ie.

Compound effects

Appropriate for the long term funding additional funding

Procreation of additional

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BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

Public Comment Card

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TO: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701

FROM: Scott Gill, 32 S. California St., Yerington, Nevada 89447

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

The Western Hemisphere of the United States has been in a drought for the past eight years with no sight of precipitation change predicated. These drought years not only influence the production and costs of crops but also influence the suburban quality of life.

For example the surplus water supplies on the Colorado River will not be available for the Metropolitan areas in 2008. With the Western Regions Metropolitan water districts looking for ways to solidify their water supplies how will Walker River Basin Acquisition affect the local water supply for its local water district or state of Nevada? Some of these Western regions are planning for water shortages not on a yearly bases but on a long term base.

I believe that the health and welfare of the human species would be more of a concern than mixing irrigation water into a salt lake that cannot sustain life for a long period of time. Jumping the gun now with this project does not consider the future health and welfare of the human species.

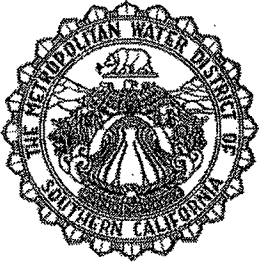
Water is a commodity that needs to enhance the areas that is leasing or selling in an equitable way especially during drought years when it could be more life enhancing than gold. Transferring this water commodity from one area to another's without any benefits for the regions economy and agriculture needs to be considered and planned for by all. What significant benefits will this dyeing lake give to the economies of Lyon County and it residents?

Within the sphere of influence in the Western Region.

See article on water shortages from the Daily Review of Hayward, CA 11-22-07

Copy Attached

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)



The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

NEWS RELEASE

P. O. Box 54153, Los Angeles, California 90054-0153 • (213) 217-6485 • www.mwdh2o.com

Contact: Bob Muir, (213) 217-6930; (213) 324-5213, mobile

Nov. 20, 2007

METROPOLITAN LOOKS TO STATEWIDE WATER MARKET TO SECURE SUPPLY INSURANCE IN THE FACE OF UNCERTAINTIES

Seeking insurance to shore up the reliability of Southern California's imported water deliveries under continuing dry conditions, Metropolitan Water District's Board of Directors today authorized entering the water market to pursue back-up supplies to meet the region's needs next year and beyond.

Metropolitan's board outlined plans to work with the state Department of Water Resources and the State Water Project Contractors Authority to purchase additional water in 2008 through transfers with willing sellers in Yuba County and the state's Central Valley. The proposed transfers would help make up for the anticipated reductions in Northern California supplies because of critically dry conditions and a court-imposed cutback in State Water Project deliveries from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

"Along with continued conservation by Southland consumers, pursuing these proposed transfers will go a long way toward solidifying Southern California's water supply picture in 2008 and beyond," said Metropolitan board Chairman Timothy F. Brick.

"By acting now, we're demonstrating the kind of proactive and resourceful approaches Southern California must undertake to deal with the supply uncertainties we face in coming years," Brick said.

Metropolitan General Manager Jeff Kightlinger said the proposed transfers could help urban Southern California compensate for potential SWP delivery shortfalls in 2008. He also noted the pending supply impacts from a federal court decision that may reduce the availability of Delta supplies to Metropolitan by up to 30 percent to address declining populations of Delta smelt. In addition, with the Colorado River having endured its eighth year of drought, Colorado River surplus supplies will not be made available to Metropolitan in 2008.

more

"Securing these transfers is consistent with our commitment to develop water management solutions that will help meet the supply needs of 18 million Southern Californians and the region's economy," Kightlinger said.

"It also follows through on our long-standing efforts to develop a water market that provides both local and statewide benefits through constructive north-south, agricultural-urban partnerships aimed at enhancing the management of California's water," he added.

In its actions today, Metropolitan's board authorized the purchase of between 13,750 acre-feet and 35,000 acre-feet in dry years over the next 18 years from the Yuba County Water Agency. An acre-foot is nearly 326,000 gallons, about the amount used by two typical Southland families in and around their households in a year.

The board also authorized Metropolitan, in conjunction with the State Water Project Contractors Authority, to pursue up to 200,000 acre-feet of water for 2008 from the Central Valley through one-year option transfer agreements.

"These proposed transfers represent a cooperative effort among a number of the water contractors and the state to create a pool of supplies that agencies can call upon as insurance against the possibility of drought," Kightlinger said.

The actions today mark the third time since 2003 that Metropolitan has tapped the statewide water market to secure options. In 2005, Metropolitan worked with the State Water Project Contractors Authority to secure one-year transfer options on 125,000 acre-feet of Central Valley supplies, which the district did not exercise. Two years earlier, the district bought about 150,000 acre-feet of water from Sacramento Valley water users.

###

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a cooperative of 26 cities and water agencies serving 18 million people in six counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies, and helps its members to develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.

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BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Sacramento Basin Area Office

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

Public Comment Card

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2. By US Mail addressed to Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701; or
3. By E-mail to chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov; or
4. By Fax to (775) 884-8376; or
5. If you have questions regarding the EIS or the process, please call Caryn Hunt DeCarlo at (775) 884-8352.

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Dwight Goodwin
Affiliation (if any): none
Street Address: Box 485
City, State, Zip: Yerington NV 89447 Date: 10-23-07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

I DO NOT approve nor appreciate
the Federal Gov. encroaching in this
area & on the citizens of either of
these communities (Smith / Mason
valleys)

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

12 horizontal lines for return address

PLEASE FOLD IN HALF HERE

Return Address:

4 horizontal lines for return address

PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE

Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

PLEASE TAPE CLOSED HERE

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PLEASE TAPE CLOSED HERE

Guy and Gaye Gordon
137 Burke Dr.
Wellington, NV 89444
27-Nov-2007

Caryn Hunt DeCarlo,
Bureau of Reclamation.
705 N. Plaza St, Rm 320
Carson City, NV 89701
chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov

We are writing to express our concern with the current objective of the "Walker River Basin Acquisition Program Environmental Impact Statement" to acquire 50,000 acre feet of ditch water from Smith and Mason valleys. We've heard the arguments proposing that the farmers grow crops that would require less water or that they grow no crops at all and plant drought resistant weeds to replace the current fertile crops. The crops that predominately grow here now, alfalfa, hay and onions, grow here because they flourish in this harsh desert high-altitude climate that brings late spring and early fall frost / cold snaps. The farmers have specialized equipment to handle the current crops. If they were required to change the crops due to having less water, they would probably have to replace a large portion of their equipment. That would be cost prohibitive to them. In all likelihood, the proposed crops would not thrive in this harsh climate.

The Impact Statement documents four known issues. We feel all four are significant to our valleys and should be studied closely.

1. Many of our domestic wells could be in danger of drying up if the water table declined due to a decrease in ditch water distributed to our valleys.
2. If the goal is to get more water to Walker Lake, the Walker River must become a more efficient delivery system.
3. The socioeconomic effects on Smith and Mason valleys would be disastrous. While the needs of Walker Lake are certainly of importance to your Bureau, the residents of Smith and Mason valleys are entitled to the same consideration. These water rights have supported our valleys for over a hundred years. To propose taking them to support a sparsely developed / recreational community 50 miles away makes no sense and should not even be considered.
4. The noxious weeds and dust that would prevail without the current water allotments for agriculture would make Smith and Mason valleys almost unlivable.

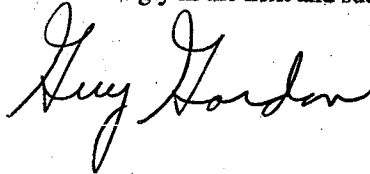
We feel that it is important to sustain our agricultural economy so we can continue to grow food to support the expanding population of the United States. We do not want to rely on the questionable imports of food from foreign countries.

In summary, we would like to state our support for the alternative provision titled "**No Action Alternative.**" We will voice this throughout your study and, as indicated below, have communicated this to our Congressional Representatives. We, along with many of our Valley neighbors, will be following this process in detail and will vote accordingly in the next and subsequent elections.

Best Regards,



Gaye and Guy Gordon
137 Burke Dr.
Wellington, NV 89444



TOM GRADY

ASSEMBLYMAN

District No. 38



DISTRICT OFFICE:

43 Fairway Drive
Yerington, Nevada 89447-2170

Office: (775) 463-2612
Cell.: (775) 771-5199

LEGISLATIVE BUILDING:

401 S. Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4747

Office: (775) 684-8507
Fax No.: (775) 684-8533
www.leg.state.nv.us

COMMITTEES:
Natural Resources,
Agriculture, and Mining
Taxation
Ways and Means

State of Nevada Assembly

Seventy-Fourth Session

November 20, 2007

Bureau of Reclamation
Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 North Plaza Street
Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Ms. DeCarlo,

After attending most meetings on the Walker River Basin Acquisition Program, I must admit I, as well as constituents who have contacted me, still have many questions.

Your meeting of October 23, 2007, at the Yerington High School did little to answer questions. Most in attendance were very disappointed with the information (or lack thereof) on hand that evening.

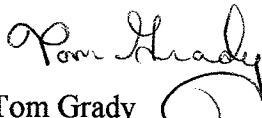
The following comments are issues my constituents have:

- Need a broader definition (not just save Walker Lake)
- Why only Nevada's portion of Walker River water and not water in California?
- Is stored water in California part of Nevada or is it considered California water?
- Not enough money appropriated to purchase 50,000 acre/feet. Will this be another Newlands Reclamation fiasco as the Swingle Bench area is also in my district?
- What consideration is given to acquiring Mineral County water (i.e. Hawthorne Depot, Mt. Grant watershed, etc.)?
- Look to the "future" not just past historical averages. We are in a warming trend.
- All litigation on water issues must be solved on the river before water transfers are considered.
- Water "leasing" would be preferred. A complete study must be made on leasing.
- The State of Nevada Water Engineer must review and approve any final documents before transfers.

As you can see, our folks are very concerned as am I that environmental and economic issues must be studied in full before any agreements are even considered. We do not feel this is being done at this time.

I thank you in advance for taking the time to address our concerns.

Sincerely,


Tom Grady
Assemblyman, District 38

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BUREAU OF RECREATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

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3. By E-mail to chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov; or
4. By Fax to (775) 884-8376; or
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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: ROHENE P. GUILD

Affiliation (if any): _____

Street Address: 105 Hwy. 95A East.

City, State, Zip: VERINGTON NV 89447-9434 Date: 11/16/07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

1- Who benefits from Lahontan cutthroat Trout? How many people are affected by this in comparison to ranch & land owners in affected areas?

2- Are you also worrying about other species that will be affected by your actions. There are lots of wild things out there!!

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

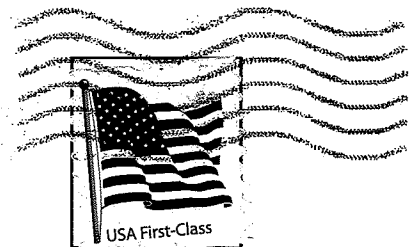
If you cut water squinton what about the cities in the affected areas. They all use deep wells even Hawthorne - if you cut one you must cut all!! Your cities will have to schedule water for shower, washing, drinking, cooking etc.. The impact will be tremendous. They gave you a big pay out to study all this and you want to use every cent. If Wash. hadn't given you the money via San Reid, we wouldn't be worrying nor would you. This acreage has only had 4 owners & in 1910 came to the Guild family & it is still the same size & use in the same. I still think this will all go to Las Vegas in the end!!!

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Return Address:

RENO NV 895

17 NOV 2007 PM 2 L



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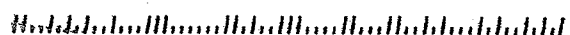
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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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NOV 19 2007
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

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89701+4066



From: C J Hadley <cj@rangemagazine.com>
To: <chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov>
Date: 12/1/2007 1:30:57 PM
Subject: from cj @ RANGE magazine

Caryn:

Please do not allow water diversion from agriculture to Walker Lake.
Do not change an area that is productive and beautiful. And consider
the fact that Walker Lake could naturally become Walker Sink, and the
destruction of what's good will have been for naught.

C.J Hadley, publisher/editor, RANGE magazine

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Keith Heidkamp

Affiliation (if any): _____

Street Address: 448 W Cottonwood DR

City, State, Zip: Walker Lake, NV 89415 Date: 11-23-07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

Please don't give the Paiute tribe control over
the Lake

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NOV 26 2007

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

To Whom It May Concern:

Foremost we want to preserve Walker Lake. Water is one of the most valuable resources of the State of Nevada. We do not want the Lake to turn in to another Mono Lake, CA or Owens Lake, CA.

The water available should be sufficient to satisfy the needs of all users in the Walker Lake Basin. Primary to accomplish this is accurate measurements for all diversions and wells to account for and police the users of water. No user should be able to use more than his or her allotment!

As a resident of the Walker Lake community I do not want the bed and banks of Walker Lake Community given to the Walker River Paiute Indian Tribe. We would like to see the Tribe take the bed and banks from the existing reservation down to and including Sportsman Park. Further we do not want any of the existing water rights of the Walker Lake Water G.I.D. to be involved in this transaction.

The following are important issues involved; I have circled the issues that are of interest to me personally:

- 1. Preserve Walker Lake as a recreation area for all people now and in the future.**
- 2. Preserve the existing water rights of the Walker Lake Water G.I.D.**
- 3. Exclude the bed and banks of the Walker Lake Community being given back to the Walker River Paiute Tribe.**
- 4. Enforce and Monitor all water diversions and water wells to make sure no user receives more than their allotment.**
- 5. Federal financing for development of ground water sources in the Hawthorne Army Depot Lands for either drinking water or to help maintain the level of Walker Lake.**
- 6. A co-coordinated study to provide solutions to meet the legal requirements for fire fighting and emergency services to rural communities.**
- 7. Waste Water Treatment Plants for Hawthorne and Walker Lake to help preserve Walker Lake water quality.**
- 8. Exclude the residents of Mineral County from being charged by the Walker River Paiute Tribe for using Walker Lake: Camping, Fishing, Boat Permits etc.**
- 9. Financial funding to improve the flow of water in the Walker River. Remove vegetation that consumes large quantities of water. Make necessary improvements to irrigation ditches to prevent water losses.**

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Jon Hill
Affiliation (if any): Nevada Hay Growers Assn.
Street Address: 41 S. Hwy 339
City, State, Zip: Yerington NV 89447 Date: 10/25/07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

I Am The Manager of The New Hay Growers Assn
We Market Forage for Local Growers
from Smith Valley, Mason Valley, Seage
and Fallon. Mostly Mason and Smith.
We Inventory over 100,000 Tons each year
with Gross Sales of 10 to 14 million Dollars

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

As you can see taking 80,000 A.F.T. of
water would be an economic disaster
to our area. It would also greatly
impact our eco system and what little
wildlife that is left. We have been
in and out of drought for the past
30 yrs. These areas have no extra
water.

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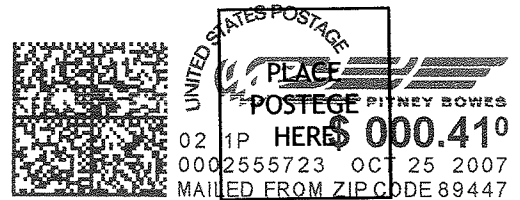
Return Address:

Jon Hill

415 Hwy 339

Yerington NV,

89447



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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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OCT 26 2007

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

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US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: SHARON M. HODGES

Affiliation (if any): HOMEOWNER

Street Address: 138 RANDAL

City, State, Zip: WALKER LAKE, NV 89415 Date: 11/21/2007

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

THE SAVING OF WALKER LAKE FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF
ALL WILL REQUIRE COMPROMISE... THIS IS UNDERSTOOD.
AND I BELIEVE THE ATTACHED RECOMMENDATIONS ARE
SOUND AND VIABLE COMPROMISES.

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

Blank lined area for address or message.

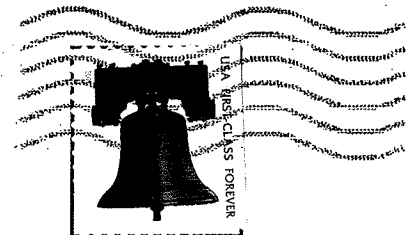
PLEASE FOLD IN HALF HERE

Return Address:

S. Hodges
420 N. Sunnyside
Diamond Bar, CA
91765

RENO NV 895

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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

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8970184066 0003



To Whom It May Concern:

Foremost we want to preserve Walker Lake. Water is one of the most valuable resources of the State of Nevada. We do not want the Lake to turn in to another Mono Lake, CA or Owens Lake, CA.

The water available should be sufficient to satisfy the needs of all users in the Walker Lake Basin. Primary to accomplish this is accurate measurements for all diversions and wells to account for and police the users of water. No user should be able to use more than his or her allotment!

As a resident of the Walker Lake community I do not want the bed and banks of Walker Lake Community given to the Walker River Paiute Indian Tribe. We would like to see the Tribe take the bed and banks from the existing reservation down to and including Sportsman Park. Further we do not want any of the existing water rights of the Walker Lake Water G.I.D. to be involved in this transaction.

The following are important issues involved; I have circled the issues that are of interest to me personally:

- ① Preserve Walker Lake as a recreation area for all people now and in the future.**
- ② Preserve the existing water rights of the Walker Lake Water G.I.D.**
- ③ Exclude the bed and banks of the Walker Lake Community being given back to the Walker River Paiute Tribe.**
- ④ Enforce and Monitor all water diversions and water wells to make sure no user receives more than their allotment.**
- ⑤ Federal financing for development of ground water sources in the Hawthorne Army Depot Lands for either drinking water or to help maintain the level of Walker Lake.**
- ⑥ A co-coordinated study to provide solutions to meet the legal requirements for fire fighting and emergency services to rural communities.**
- ⑦ Waste Water Treatment Plants for Hawthorne and Walker Lake to help preserve Walker Lake water quality.**
- ⑧ Exclude the residents of Mineral County from being charged by the Walker River Paiute Tribe for using Walker Lake: Camping, Fishing, Boat Permits etc.**
- ⑨ Financial funding to improve the flow of water in the Walker River. Remove vegetation that consumes large quantities of water. Make necessary improvements to irrigation ditches to prevent water losses.**

MAYOR
DOUGLAS HOMESTEAD

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
GEORGE DINI
RITA EVASOVIC
RICHARD FABER
BILL VICENCIO

CITY MANAGER
DAN NEWELL



102 South Main Street • Yerington • Nevada • 89447
PHONE: 775 463-3511 Website: www.yerington.net FAX: 775 463-2284

CITY CLERK
COLLEEN CASTELLO

POLICE CHIEF
ROD PELLEGRINI
30 NEVIN WAY

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
ROY McDONALD
227 S. MAIN ST.

November 20, 2007

Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
Bureau of Reclamation
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

RE: Comment on Walker River Basin Acquisition Program Environmental Impact Statement

Ms. DeCarlo,

Due to the importance of this entire Walker River Basin Project to the residents of the City of Yerington, the Yerington City Council would like to participate in the Bureau of Reclamation's comment period. We fully understand that the intent of P.L. 109-103 is to provide additional water to Walker Lake, but we also understand that how the proposal is to be framed can have a major impact upon our community and the surrounding area.

While none of us wants to see Walker Lake dry up, the City of Yerington must also be very concerned about the potential effects of this project on our citizenry and the city's efforts to continue to provide quality services to them. Please consider the following comments on the issue:

- (1) The Walker River and its accompanying ditch delivery system throughout our area have been proven to be the primary recharge source for not only agricultural use but also for domestic and municipal water service. Therefore, removal of additional water from the system creates very real concerns for the City of Yerington which must continue to provide quality service to its residents and businesses.
- (2) It appears that much emphasis has been placed on 208(a) which involves the acquisition of water from willing sellers. We would urge equal consideration be given the other sections of the proposal such as acquiring new water from sources in addition to those in Mason and Smith Valleys (Mt. Grant watershed, Walker River Indian Reservation, Hawthorne Ammunition Depot), the agricultural and natural resources center, water conservation efforts, cooperative programs for environmental restoration, fish and wildlife habitat restoration, etc.
- (3) Section 208(2)(B) calling for "environmental restoration in the Walker River Basin" has to

rank high on our list of concerns.

(4) We urge Reclamation to analyze alternatives not in the statute such as (a) water leasing/banking programs; (b) non-acquisitional proposals (cloud seeding, channel improvements, conservation efforts, wider effluent use, etc.); and (c) desalination and oxygenation options. These alternatives could add considerably to the stated desire to sustain improved conditions over the long-term at the lake.

(5) We urge the EIS to base its study on current weather and water conditions and not upon precipitation statistics from prior years. Our area is experiencing drought conditions and if the forecasts of Global Warming become reality, water depletion will only continue at a faster rate. Any further depletion will only compound problems.

The City of Yerington urges the Bureau of Reclamation for a comprehensive and unbiased EIS, and we ask Reclamation to keep us in the communications loop throughout each step of the process. We would be very interested in being provided a copy of the Scoping Report to assist us in knowing which issues will be looked at.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas L. Homestead
Mayor

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BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lahontan Basin Area Office

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

Public Comment Card

Please use this comment card to submit input regarding the Walker River Basin Acquisition Program and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please include any sources of relevant data or information that you feel may enhance this document. Comments must be received by **November 26, 2007**.

Comments can be submitted in the following ways:

1. Turn in today at the Public Meeting; or
2. By US Mail addressed to Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701; or
3. By E-mail to chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov; or
4. By Fax to (775) 884-8376; or
5. If you have questions regarding the EIS or the process, please call Caryn Hunt DeCarlo at (775) 884-8352.

Privacy Notice: Before including your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment - including your personal identifying information - may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Unless indicated by you otherwise, you will automatically be added to the official EIS mailing list by submitting this form.

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name:

CHARLES E. HORTON

Affiliation (if any):

Street Address:

215 GOLDEN WILLOW

City, State, Zip:

WALKER LAKE, NV

Date: 11.20.07

89415

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

Handwritten return address:

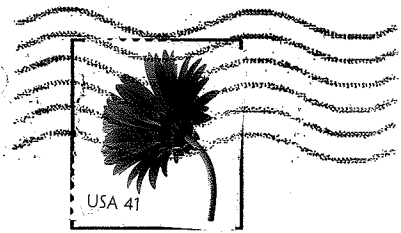
215 GOLDEN WILLOW
WALKER LAKE, NV
89415

PLEASE FOLD IN HALF HERE

Return Address:

RENO NV 895

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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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Lahontan Basin Area Office

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December 7, 2007

Jeffrey B. Hunewill
Hunewill Land and Livestock Co. Inc.
195 Hunewill Lane
Wellington, NV 89444

Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

Mrs. Hunt DeCarlo,

Enclosed are my comments regarding the Walker River Basin Acquisition Program and the EIS.

1. The Walker River Irrigation District and the Ditch companies (the Colony Ditch in this case) must be kept "whole" financially and with regard to water conveyance losses. For example, should water be moved from a property, all fees to the WRID and Ditch companies must be paid by the water buyer as long as the WRID and Ditch company exist. In addition, there should be at least enough water left on the sold property so that ditch conveyance losses do not become the burden of the irrigators left using the ditch. Better still, leave enough water to irrigate once per season to establish and maintain vegetation to keep the soil covered on this sold property.

2. Water conservation by farmers should be encouraged and the conserved water could be acquired for Walker Lake by short term lease to allow for farming flexibility. Zero interest loans or grants for conversion of flood irrigation to center pivots are one way to encourage more efficient water use. The water saved could be leased to Walker Lake in a perfect example of a "win-win" interchange.

3. Water conservation must be practiced in managing Walker Lake in the areas of both water delivery and evaporation management at the Lake.

It must be recognized that the goal of maintaining Walker Lake in the long term (500 years or more) is something that has not happened in "nature" since the Lake has dried up many times in the last thousands of years, and so without intervention by mankind "nature" would likely dry up Walker Lake again. Furthermore, the natural addition of salts from the river and the evaporation of water would leave the lake too salty to support fish within that same 500 year span of time. Therefore, since mankind through Congress has decided to do what nature has not done (guarantee Walker Lake's existence); all methods must be considered to maintain the Lake.

Conservation of water flowing in transit to the lake could be accomplished in many ways. The most obvious would be to size the flow to minimize bank overflow and timing the flow of water to minimize use by stream bank vegetation.

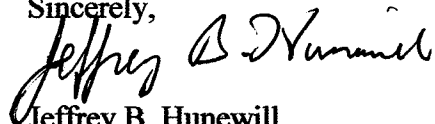
Conservation of water that evaporates in the Lake could be done by dividing the Lake into two or three separate areas by building dikes to manage the waters. The first area at the North end would serve three purposes: One, to raise the level of the lake to stop the massive erosion at the mouth of the river, two to stop the expansion of the delta into Walker Lake and three, to have a pool of very fresh water where Lahontan Cutthroat could thrive and venture up the river easily. The second area would be kept at a higher TDS level but still be an area where fish could thrive. The third area would be at the south and east edges of the lake. The primary purpose of these areas would be to reduce the surface area of the lake and reduce evaporation losses. This area would be marshy part of the year for the benefit of wildlife and for the purpose of controlling wind erosion.

I would call your attention to the recent article in Discover Magazine about the successful division of the Aral Sea in the former Soviet Union. The rapid recovery of at least part of this collapsed ecosystem at relatively low cost makes this method at least worth considering and computer modeling for Walker Lake.

4. Cloud seeding must be considered and studied as part of a long term solution to getting more water to Walker Lake and indeed to the whole Walker River system. There is virtually no cloud seeding being done in the Bridgeport Basin in the upper East Walker and yet the land owners there would like to see it done and would cooperate in implementing this practice. If the climate is going to get dryer in response to "Global Warming" then practices such as cloud seeding may only allow precipitation levels in the Sierra to stay closer to current long term norms. This would be preferable to seeing precipitation levels decline and all water users suffer.

I believe that the EIS No Action Alternative with regard to water acquisitions must be considered especially if items number 2, 3, and 4 above were implemented.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey B. Hunewill

Vice President

Hunewill Land & Livestock Co. Inc.

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Lahontan Basin Area Office

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

Public Comment Card

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: DAN KAFFER
Affiliation (if any): WESTERN NEVADA RC&D
Street Address: P.O. 3543
City, State, Zip: CARSON CITY, NV. 89702 Date: 12-5-2007

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

1. A BASIN WIDE WATER LEASING PROGRAM
SHOULD BE EVALUATED.
2. SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS TO TOWNS, COUNTIES
& VALLEES SHOULD BE EVALUATED
3. WEED PROPAGATION & WATER USE & POPULATION
SHOULD BE EVALUATED. ALL LAND NEEDS PERENNIAL VEGETATION
Comments must be received by November 26, 2007 COVER PRIOR TO
WATER REMOVAL.

4. THE POTENTIAL LOSS OF WILDLIFE HABITAT ^{H2O}SHED
WIDE, AND ON DITCHES & FIELDS THAT ARE ABANDONED NEEDS STUDY.

5. THE STABILIZATION & RESTORATION OF THE WALKER
RIVER CHANNEL (E, W. & MAIN) SHOULD BE A PRIORITY.

6. DE-SALINIZATION OF WALKER LAKE NEEDS TO
BE DEVELOPED.

7. P.G. & E. BELIEVES CLOUD SEEDING IS VERY
COST EFFECTIVE IN THE SIERRAS. THE WALKER
RIVER BASIN SHOULD BE EVALUATED.

8. MT. GRANT & WASSUCK RANGE SHOULD BE EVALUATED
FOR P/J ENCROACHMENT, CLOUD SEEDING & RANGE IMPROVEMENTS
THAT YIELD MORE WATER
TO WALKER LAKE.

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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Huntt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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Lahontan Basin Area Office

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Public Comment Card

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

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TO: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701

FROM: KARI GARMS, 140 Hardie Ln , Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

WALKER LAKE

SMITH&MASON VALLEY

"QUID PRO QUO"

Definition:

SOMETHING

FOR

SOMETHING

NEEDS WATER
TREATED FAIRLY
BENEFITS AMERICA
SUSTAIN WALKER LAKE
GOV'T LEADERS SUPPORT
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NEVADA
PARITY
UNITY
UNDERSTANDING

WIN

THANK YOU!

SUPPLIES SOME WATER
TREATED FAIRLY
BENEFITS AMERICA
SUSTAIN ECONOMY
GOV'T LEADERS SUPPORT
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NEVADA
PARITY
UNITY
UNDERSTANDING

WIN

THANK YOU!

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Lahontan Basin Area Office

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FROM: KARI GARMS, 140 Hardie Ln, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

BEFORE ANY IRRIGATION WATERS ARE REMOVED FROM THE CURRENT IRRIGATION DELIVERY SYSTEMS WITHIN SMITH VALLEY OR MASON VALLEY AND SENT OFF TO SUSTAIN WALKER LAKE THE FOLLOWING WILL NEED TO BE RESOLVED.

ELIMINATION OF ANY INEFFICIENCIES IN THE DELIVERY SYSTEMS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF LESS WATER FLOWS OF THE REMAINING IRRIGATION WATER RIGHTS TO FARM LANDS WITHIN SMITH VALLEY AND MASON VALLEY.

WITH THE FUNDING AND COMPLETION OF THE NECESSARY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS THAT WILL IMPROVE THE WATER DELIVERY EFFICIENCY TO 100% BY THESE SYSTEMS PRIOR TO ANY WATER DELIVERIES BEING MADE TO WALKER LAKE.

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Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701

FROM: KARI GARMS, 140 Hardie Ln, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

LOSSES OF WATER RIGHTS WITHIN SMITH VALLEY FOR THE BENEFIT OF SUSTAINING WALKER LAKE WILL LOWER THE ASSESSED VALUATIONS ON ALL THE LANDS; IT'S BUSINESSES AND RESIDENCES IN SMITH VALLEY!

THIS WILL NOT HELP ENHANCE THE TAX BASE OF LYON COUNTY OR THE STATE OF NEVADA THAT DEPEND ON THESE SOURCES OF REVENUES.

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FROM: KARI GARMS, 140 Hardie Ln, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

ANY LOSS OR THE USE OF WATER RIGHTS WITHIN SMITH VALLEY FOR THE BENEFIT OF SUSTAINING WALKER LAKE WILL LIMIT GROWTH IN POPULATION THAT IN TURN DIRECTLY AFFECTS THE **COMMERCIALLY ZONED** LANDS IN SMITH VALLEY.

EXISTING BUSINESSES WILL STRUGGLE TO SURVIVE BUT NEW BUSINESSES WILL NOT BE INCLINED TO COME INTO OUR AREA.

LANDOWNERS OF THESE COMMERCIAL LANDS COULD REALIZE A REDUCED VALUATION OF UP TO 90% FROM TODAY'S VALUES!

THIS WILL NOT HELP THE TAX BASE OF LYON COUNTY OR THE STATE OF NEVADA THAT DEPENDS ON GROWTH THAT FEEDS IN ADDITIONAL TAX REVENUES.

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COMMENT:

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BENEFIT OF SUSTAINING WALKER LAKE WILL END UP LIMITING
GROWTH IN POPULATION.

A HOMEOWNERS TAXABLE VALUATION COULD BE REDUCED BY UP
TO 90%!

THIS WILL NOT HELP THE TAX BASE OF LYON COUNTY OR THE
STATE OF NEVADA WHO DEPEND UPON THIS REVENUE.

WITHOUT GROWTH EMPLOYMENT OF TEACHERS AND OTHER
GOVERNMENT SERVICES WILL BE REDUCED OR ELIMINATED.

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GET REDUCED UP TO 90%!

THIS WILL LOWER THE TAX BASE OF LYON COUNTY AND THE STATE
OF NEVADA.

WITHOUT A STRONG ECONOMY THE EMPLOYMENT OF TEACHERS
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FROM: KARI GARMS, 140 Hardie Ln , Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

"LAND" WHO'S WATER RIGHTS ARE EXPORTED AWAY FROM SMITH VALLEY, ITS USE AND ARE FOR THE END BENEFIT OF SUSTAINING WALKER LAKE WILL NEED TO BE RECLAIMED WITH RE-ESTABLISHING NATIVE VEGETATION.

A RECLAMATION PROJECT WITH FUNDING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A STABILIZING PROCESS OF THESE LANDS OVER A LONG TERM TIMEFRAME ARE AND WILL BE A NECESSITY FOR THE BENEFIT OF RESIDENTS AND ALL WILDLIFE IN SMITH VALLEY.

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FROM: KARI GARMS, 140 Hardie Ln , Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

**"LAND" WHO'S WATER RIGHTS ARE SOLD OR LEASED BUT NONE THE
LESS ARE EXPORTED AWAY FROM SMITH VALLEY AND ITS USE AND
ARE FOR THE BENEFIT OF SUSTAINING WALKER LAKE NEED TO BE
RECLAIMED WITH RE-ESTABLISHING NATIVE VEGETATION.**

**A RECLAMATION PROJECT SIMILAR TO THE USDA'S
"CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM"(CRP) OF WHICH
CURRENTLY WORKS WELL IN MANY AREAS OF THE UNITED STATES
CAN BE A MODEL.**

**THE CRP PROGRAM BENEFITS ALL SET ASIDE LANDS BY HELPING
SHELTER, FEED & WATER WILDLIFE WHILE STABILIZING THE SOIL.**

**ADDITIONALLY RECREATION IS THEN ALLOWED ON THESE LANDS
FOR THE PUBLIC'S USE.**

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LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA**

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TO: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior,
Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701

FROM: KARI GARMS, 140 Hardie Lane, Smith, Nevada 89430

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

THE SOCIOECONOMIC STABILITY OR IMPROVEMENT OF IT, FOR BOTH
SMITH VALLEY AND MASON VALLEY IS OF PARAMOUNT CONCERN.

NOT ONE ATTEMPT TO CHANGE THE DESTINATION OF ANY WATERS
SHOULD BE MADE UNTIL ALL ISSUES ARE ADDRESSED AND THEN
ALL RESOLUTIONS ARE IN ACTIVE PRACTICE.

SUCCESS WILL ONLY BE ACHIEVED WITH ALL WORKING TOGETHER
WITH A FAIR AND EQUITABLE MINDSET IN THEIR APPROACH.

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Lahontan Basin Area Office

Corrine Ortega

From: Russell Grimes
Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2007 9:07 AM
To: Ellen Unsworth
Subject: FW: Walker River Basin Scoping Response

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

-----Original Message-----

From: Caryn HuntDeCarlo [mailto:CHUNTTDECARLO@mp.usbr.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 05, 2007 7:20 AM
To: Russell Grimes
Subject: Fwd: Walker River Basin Scoping Response

>>> James Kinninger <jlkinnn@hughes.net> 12/5/2007 5:18 AM >>>
Walker River Basin Project EIS Response

I suggest that the focus of the EIS is so narrowly defined that only upstream users are targeted for supplying the water that is being sought for Walker Lake. This EIS is only targeting Ranchers in Smith and Mason Valleys to supply the water. There are many other sources of water for this project and all should be subject to investigation as possible sources for the project.

The most logical place to start would be the underground water sources that are closest to the lake. Securing these sources may cause the least impacts and possibly be the most cost effective. The EIS needs to redefine its direction.

The Bureau of Reclamation has its name on an EIS done in 2001 for this same project (including California). The facts in this document state:

* The needed water for this project if secured from upstream ranchers will cause between 10,000 and 42,000 acres of currently irrigated farmland to go fallow. These figures are used to generate 50,000 additional acre feet at Walker Lake. (Since the lake may need up to 90,000 acre feet to create what the Basin Project desires, the amount of land that may go fallow could easily be 45% greater. This projects to between 14,500 and 60,900 acres that may go fallow.) Just using an average of the first two figures (10,000 to 42,000 acres) comes to 26,000 acres of ag land that would need to go fallow. If this figure is split between Mason and Smith Valleys then each would have to fallow 13,000 acres of currently irrigated farmland. This would basically wipe out all farming in Smith Valley and most of Mason Valley. The environmental impacts that will be caused by the fallowing of the above mentioned farmland will have huge impacts on the environment as well as the economy. The number of species of animals that depend on the crops for food and the water in the irrigation ditches and ponds needs to be studied. Currently, hundreds, if not thousands, of deer feed in the fields. The lost of these deer will impact many other species. The total environmental impacts to the upstream areas caused by the implementation of this plan to save Walker Lake could easily be far greater than the environmental impacts the project is trying to address at Walker Lake.

* Since the 2001 EIS determined that domestic well recharge in Smith Valley is completely dependant on agricultural irrigation, then it is safe to assume that most domestic well would run dry. (Domestic well owners are not even given a seat with the so called "Stake-Holders" group!) The loss of domestic wells would cause nearly all residents of Smith Valley to relocate and complete loss of their property value.

* The EIS makes the same connection between irrigation and domestic well recharge for Mason Valley. Similar losses would occur in Mason Valley.

Finally, I submit that if there wasn't some \$70 million dollars involved this scoping project would easily be seen for what it is; a mockery of the environmental process to justify the destruction of Mason & Smith Valleys.

James (Jim) Kinninger
87 Pinon Dr.
Wellington, NV 89444

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

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3. By E-mail to chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov; or
4. By Fax to (775) 884-8376; or
5. If you have questions regarding the EIS or the process, please call Caryn Hunt DeCarlo at (775) 884-8352.

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Georgia Kinninger
 Affiliation (if any): concerned resident citizen
 Street Address: 87 Pinox Dr.
 City, State, Zip: Wellington, NV 89444 Date: 11-20-07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

① you have pre-selected to buy water rights from Mason & Smith Valley. This closes the door to alternate ideas for acquiring water. Since there are huge water rights holdings near Hawthorne, why not buy from them? Please look into this.

② When ^{studying} the economic impacts and statistics of having less ag. in Mason Valley, please seek out and consider the "contract labor" of

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

hundreds of temporary residents who come to work our fields. They buy groceries, repair autos, rent, gamble, etc. But they don't show up in local stats since they are contracted through out-of-the-valley businesses.

(3) When you conduct or plan for "channel restoration" that includes cementing the ditches, I am concerned that many, many domestic wells will be depleted due to a lack of ground water recharging that the dirt ditches have historically done for us.

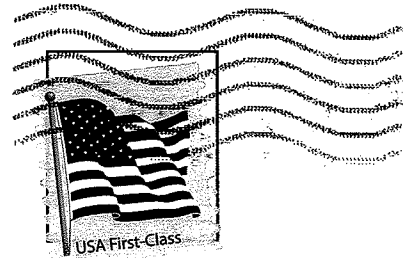
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Return Address:

Kinninger
87 Pinon Dr.
89444

RENO NV 895

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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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October 23, 2007

135

We have one question:

In order to achieve the desired number of acre feet of water to reach Walker Lake, how many acres of farm land will need to be taken out of irrigation in Smith and Mason Valleys?

Jim & Georgia Kinninger
87 Pinon Drive
Wellington, NV 89444

jlkinin@hughes.net

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
LAHONTAN BASIN AREA OFFICE, NEVADA

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3. By E-mail to chunttdecarlo@mp.usbr.gov; or
4. By Fax to (775) 884-8376; or
5. If you have questions regarding the EIS or the process, please call Caryn Hunt DeCarlo at (775) 884-8352.

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Jim Kinninger
Affiliation (if any): Property owner w/ Domestic Wells
Street Address: 87 Pinon Dr
City, State, Zip: Wellington NV 89444 Date: 10-23-07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

1) In 2001 an EIR was completed on this project. (BLM & NDOI) Why is it not being used?
2) In the above EIR it states that domestic wells are directly dependant on recharge from irrigation & ditch water. This needs to be told to all residents.

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

over

3. The 2001 ERI states that between
1600 & 50000 irrigated acres of farm
land will need to go dry (fallow)
to supply the water needed to
"save" Walker Lake.

4. Why was California not included
today as it was in 2001?

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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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WALKER RIVER BASIN ACQUISITION PROGRAM AND EIS
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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: MILES + ROBERTA KNAPP

Affiliation (if any): _____

Street Address: 100 KALARNEY WAY

City, State, Zip: WALKER LAKE NV 89415 Date: 11-21-07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

We would hate to lose our beautiful
Walker Lake and all the fish + wild
life involved.

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007



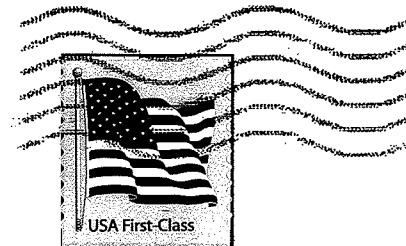
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Return Address:

Miles & Roberta Knapp
100 Kalarney Way
Walker Lake NV 89415-9600

RENO, NV 895

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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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Lahontan Basin Area Office

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To Whom It May Concern:

Foremost we want to preserve Walker Lake. Water is one of the most valuable resources of the State of Nevada. We do not want the Lake to turn in to another Mono Lake, CA or Owens Lake, CA.

The water available should be sufficient to satisfy the needs of all users in the Walker Lake Basin. Primary to accomplish this is accurate measurements for all diversions and wells to account for and police the users of water. No user should be able to use more than his or her allotment!

As a resident of the Walker Lake community I do not want the bed and banks of Walker Lake Community given to the Walker River Paiute Indian Tribe. We would like to see the Tribe take the bed and banks from the existing reservation down to and including Sportsman Park. Further we do not want any of the existing water rights of the Walker Lake Water G.I.D. to be involved in this transaction.

The following are important issues involved; I have circled the issues that are of interest to me personally:

- 1. Preserve Walker Lake as a recreation area for all people now and in the future.**
- 2. Preserve the existing water rights of the Walker Lake Water G.I.D.**
- 3. Exclude the bed and banks of the Walker Lake Community being given back to the Walker River Paiute Tribe.**
- 4. Enforce and Monitor all water diversions and water wells to make sure no user receives more than their allotment.**
- 5. Federal financing for development of ground water sources in the Hawthorne Army Depot Lands for either drinking water or to help maintain the level of Walker Lake.**
- 6. A co-coordinated study to provide solutions to meet the legal requirements for fire fighting and emergency services to rural communities.**
- 7. Waste Water Treatment Plants for Hawthorne and Walker Lake to help preserve Walker Lake water quality.**
- 8. Exclude the residents of Mineral County from being charged by the Walker River Paiute Tribe for using Walker Lake: Camping, Fishing, Boat Permits etc.**
- 9. Financial funding to improve the flow of water in the Walker River. Remove vegetation that consumes large quantities of water. Make necessary improvements to irrigation ditches to prevent water losses.**

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FAX TO: (775) 884-8376 on November 26, 2007
FAX Front and Back PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY Monday!

Name: Danny and Margaret Knight, MSW, LSW

Affiliation (if any): _____

Street Address: 151 Golden Willow Drive

City, State, Zip: Walker Lake, NV 89415 Date: 11/24/07

Comments: (Comments may be continued on the back or a separate sheet.)

There are more endangered species
as they reside by Hawthorn and Walker
Lake. I have seen ① Antelope, ② wild
horses, ③ pelicans, ④ Kit Foxes
⑤ Regular Trout ⑥ Bull Snakes, ⑦ chipmunks
or ⑧ Squirrels ⑨ Humming Birds ⑩ Bear ⑪ Skunks

Comments must be received by November 26, 2007

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(12) Horney Toeds, (13) Lizards, (14) Canadian
Geese, (15) Sea Gulls and perhaps more.

I think people should only use their
allotted amount of water, to help save the lake.
(Fines should be high for those who exceed their share)
The birds, like the geese who stop here
for their migration need also to be protected.

Walker Lake is such a beautiful lake
and a pleasure to all who enjoy it. It
should be preserved for us and future
generations. On some sunsets the lake turns
into a beautiful golden color, like the gem it is!

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Return Address:

Margaret Knight
151 Golden Willow Drive
Walker Lake, NV 89415

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Lahontan Basin Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
ATTN: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo
705 N. Plaza St., Room 320
Carson City, NV 89701

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TO: Mrs. Caryn Hunt DeCarlo, Lahontan Basin Area Office, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, 705 N. Plaza St., Room 320, Carson City, NV 89701

FROM: Karen Kostenbader, 35 N. California St., Yerington, Nevada 89447

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT:

With the exportation of water within either valley for Walker Lake's gain their needs to be funded projects for each area for its infrastructures ie water systems, sewer systems, development funding, irrigation systems that are up dated to the 21st century with materials and technology to offset the losses to local landowners, businesses, county government and services.

These programs should be funded but not limited to any time elements,

We are not just talking about leasing or buying water rights. We are talking about financial impacts that will be felt for years and decades to come

We are not resolving Walker Lake's problems by making more financial, social, economic problems for Smith and Mason Valley's, their landowners, social, financial, economic impacts, as well as the outline economic areas, which will reach areas in the dairy and feed store areas in California.

Will the acquisition of water create any new wildlife endangered species and what type of funding will be available to help curb this viable life style.

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FROM: Karen Kostenbader, 35. N. California St., Yerington Nevada 89447

Date: December 1, 2007

Comments: The areas that will be affected by the acquisition will be as far-reaching as California and the entire Dairy Industry and feed stores, which purchase hays/alfalfa from the Smith and Mason Valley areas. It will affect their economy by increase fuel and hauling costs, which will then have to be passed on to the consumer.

Local businesses such as Fertilizer, machinery, gas and restaurants will be affected by the loss of sales. Lyon County along with Douglas, Carson, etc. will be affect through taxes and the lack of the majority of people shopping in these areas.

It will be a domino affect that must be considered.

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FROM: Karen Kostendbader, 35 N. California St., Yerington, Nevada 89447

Date: December 1, 2007

COMMENT: Before any water should be considered for sale or lease from the Walker River Basin the complete condition of the irrigation system should first be examined and brought up to a current conservation standard that will enhance delivery of the remaining water rights.

The current condition of the irrigations systems will affect the remaining water users in the system if no standards for delivery are improved from the Topaz Lake Reservoir/ Bridgeport Reservoir.

What improvements to landowner's ranches/ditches will be needed in order to keep the duties adequate so the viability of their production continues as before the Acquisition. Funding for these improvements are needed and desired.

The droughts and lack of precipitation received on a yearly bases in the Smith/Mason areas has been changing and should be a huge concern for all that are involved in this acquisition project today and years/decades into the future.

What will happen when there is not enough water to fill the duties of farmers that have not sold or leased their water rights?

Will the government be last in line for the water on continuing drought years when there has never been a guarantee from Mother Nature?

Will the government take the risk as the farmers have in the past with a shrink equal to or greater than what the farmers are shrunk on a daily bases?

The government will have to equally deal with a drought situation similar to 2007 or worse.

The government needs to encourage and offer financial benefits to efficient farmers with tax incentives, grants, loans, etc. to keep agricultural viable and have these farmers help maintain wildlife habitats in a similar way that they are trying to help a dieing salt lake such as Walker Lake.